

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMCONSUL MONTREAL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 684
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
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UNCLAS MONTREAL 1239

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: ELAB, CA
SUBJECT: NEW CONTRACT IN PAPER INDUSTRY

1. A TENTATIVE AGREEMENT ON A NEW TWO-YEAR CONTRACT HAS BEEN REACHED BY NEGOTIATORS OF THE CANADIAN PAPER WORKER'S UNION AND INTERNATIONAL PAPER OF CANADA. CONTRACT REPRESENTS THE FIRST IN THE PAPER INDUSTRY THIS YEAR, AND WILL PROBABLY BE USED AS PATTERN FOR OTHER COMPANIES.

2. TERMS WOULD INCREASE AVERAGE HOURLY WAGE RATE STARTING MAY 1 BY 7.3 PERCENT FROM DOLS 7.94 TO DOLS 8.52. FOR FINAL YEAR OF AGREEMENT, BEGINNING MAY 1, 1979, INCREASE WOULD AMOUNT TO ANOTHER 5 PERCENT TO DOLS 8.95. UNION OFFICIALS SAID THAT TOTAL VALUE OF NEGOTIATED INCREASES, INCLUDING FRINGE BENEFITS, TOTALS DOLS 1.71 PER HOUR, WHICH WOULD RAISE AVERAGE TOTAL COMPENSATION FROM DOLS 11.14 TO DOLS 12.85, AN INCREASE OF 15 PERCENT OVER TWO YEAR PERIOD.

3. CANADIAN PAPER WORKERS UNION IS NEGOTIATING CONTRACTS FOR 36,000 WORKERS IN EASTERN CANADA. CONTRACT WITH INTERNATIONAL PAPER COVERS 3800 OF THESE WORKERS AT FIVE MILLS IN QUEBEC, ONTARIO, AND NEW BRUNSWICK. EIGHT UNIONLOCALS COVERED BY CONTRACT ARE EXPECTED TO MEET THIS WEEK TO VOTE ON
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RATIFICATION.
HARPER

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Message Attributes

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